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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 3926
INFO RUEHBE/AMEMBASSY BELMOPAN 0047
RUEHWN/AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN 5555
RUEHGE/AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN 3627
RUEHKG/AMEMBASSY KINGSTON 8491
RUEHPU/AMEMBASSY PORT AU PRINCE 3501
RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 4661
RUEHDG/AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO 2783
RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 0399

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 000273 SIPDIS

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STATE FOR WHA/CAR RCBUDDEN

EO 12958 DECL: 02/25/2017
TAGS PREL, PGOV, KCOR, BF
SUBJECT: CABINET MINISTER RESIGNS OVER PHOTOS WITH ANNA
NICOLE SMITH

REF: 05 NASSAU 1711

Classified By: Charge d'Affaires Brent Hardt for reasons 1.4(b) and (d)

[1](#). (U) SUMMARY. Bahamian Minister of Immigration Shane Gibson resigned February 18 following publication of photographs of Gibson embracing Sm
Minister Gibson Resigns Over Photo Scandal

[1](#)2. (U) On February 18, Minister of Immigration Shane Gibson resigned his Cabinet seat following publication of photos showing him in a bedroom
Wounded PLP Strikes Back on FNM Terms

[1](#)3. (U) Continuing to deny any wrongdoing, Gibson and Prime Minister Christie responded to press and opposition criticism by aggressively defer

[1](#)4. (C) According to a source in the FNM's leadership, even before the photographs of Gibson in bed with Smith, the FNM would have focused its
Gibson and Press Won't Go Away

[1](#)5. (C) COMMENT: The Gibson-Anna Nicole scandal gives the FNM just the focus it hoped for in a campaign already designed to question the PLP's
2002 and he enjoys the patronage of political heavyweight Bishop Neil Ellis -- will ensure that Gibson stays in the PLP's plans.

[1](#)6. (C) The international media circus surrounding Smith and Gibson will likely continue for some time, keeping the Bahamas in the internationa